




RYTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health
for the
Year 1965



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Health Department,
The Towers,
Ryton.

Ryton 2261/2262

July, 1966.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Ryton Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1965.

The population figures show a natural increase of 60, with an estimated population increase of 110.

The birth rate and total number of births show an increase compared with 1964 although the rates still remain lower than for the County and the Country as a whole. The death rates throughout the Country, in the County and in the District, all show a slight increase as does the total number of deaths for the District. Unless a trend persists, however, it cannot be regarded as significant. After the unexpected increase in the infant mortality rate which occurred last year, the figure for the District has now fallen and is comparable with those for the County and for England and Wales.

Of the 188 deaths which occurred during the year, 93 resulted from cardiovascular disease and 37 from cancer.

The biennial increase of prevalence of measles has caused the total number of notifiable diseases to rise to 177 as compared with 15 in 1964, 167 cases of measles being notified. 8 cases of tuberculosis were notified and 10 cases were reported as recovered, the number remaining on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year being 66, a reduction of one compared with 1964. It is pleasing to report that no cases of food poisoning or dysentery were reported during the year. No cases of diphtheria, smallpox, typhoid or paratyphoid have been recorded for 10 years and the last notified case of poliomyelitis was in 1961.

As detailed in Section III of this Report, immunisation programmes continued to be pursued vigorously, with prophylaxis against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis, smallpox and tuberculosis. The same Section contains details of the operations in the District of the Blood Donor Panel and the Mobile X-ray Unit.

Through the medium of health visitors and other nursing personnel, and by the wide distribution of posters and pamphlets, health education continued to be pursued. Particular attention was paid to the supply of food posters to food premises and to food handlers, who have become more conscious thereby of their responsibilities.

The County Council is to be congratulated on the extension of the provision of Residential Accommodation under the National Assistance Act, a further hostel at Ryton being opened for active use in the middle of the year.

The Council continued to give practical support to all welfare activities and, through the willing collaboration of the Women's Voluntary Service and an industrial canteen, the Meals on Wheels Service has continued.

The Chiropody Service which, as stated in my last Report, was started on 18th December, 1964, continued on the same basis throughout 1965, 340 treatments being given. The number of residents on the register at the end of 1965 had increased to 196 and the County Council plans for expanding the service were nearing completion.

After preliminary meetings, an Old Peoples Welfare Committee was established and the first meeting of the Committee took place on the 25th October, 1965. Its activities have been mainly devoted to planning the organisation, in various parts of the District, of Lunchcon Clubs which, it is hoped, will be opened at different times throughout 1966. These should cater to some extent for the less disabled of those who cannot be included in the Meals on Wheels Service.

Family Case Conferences, the formation of which was first reported last year, continued to be held and a solution of a family difficulty was thereby found. Local Co-ordinating Committee meetings continued in No. 1 Health Area, three being held during the year. Details of its activities are given on page 20.

As in previous years, the purity of water supplies continued to receive careful supervision. Regular sampling was carried out by the Water Undertakings referred to on page 28, and the Health Department. Results showed the water supplies to be pure and wholesome.

With the virtual completion of the Council's original slum clearance programme, action under the Housing Act, 1957, was limited to individual unfit properties, of which 7 were closed and 15 demolished during the year. Whilst all obviously unfit houses have now been dealt with, there remain a number of dwellings which, although not below the defined standard of fitness, are nevertheless below the general standard of housing accommodation within the District. There seems little prospect of dealing with these sites pending a revision of statutory housing standards.

The response from landlords to the offer of improvement grants showed a slight increase during the year. Of the 80 applications received, 10 related to tenanted houses. Without the active co-operation of landlords, there seems little prospect of arresting the decay which is liable to occur in the older terrace-type houses.

The condition of food premises has continued to be satisfactory and no particular problems in connection with food supplies arose.

The continuing development of housing and industrial sites within the District imposed further burdens on the refuse collection and disposal services which, nevertheless, were consistently maintained throughout the year. The acquisition of a tipping site remote from housing development proved to be a most satisfactory arrangement.

General inspections of premises, registered under the provisions of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, were commenced and, as mentioned in the Report, matters requiring attention were generally of a minor nature.

No action has been taken by the Council to formulate a Smoke Control programme, but the measurement of air pollution by smoke and sulphur dioxide was continued.

It is pleasant to be able to report continued good progress in sanitary and health measures. I would, once again, express my thanks to members of the Health Committee and the Council for their co-operation and understanding which has greatly helped in my own task and made the Department's efforts the more rewarding and effective. I would record my thanks to the staff of other Departments of the Council for their willing co-operation when required.

The work of the staff and other employees of the Health Department continued at a high level, the good relations existing within this Department having contributed very considerably to the high standard which has been maintained. My thanks are due to all the officers of the Department for their continued excellent work.

The helpful collaboration of the County Medical Officer and his staff, and staff assistance when required, must be recorded with my thanks.

Mrs. Preeee was appointed Area Health Clerk in late 1964 in succession to Mrs. Brown; after giving brief but valuable assistance, it was necessary for her to resign her appointment the following March for personal domestic reasons and I would thank her for her help.

Mrs. Martin, whose appointment was mentioned in last year's Report, took up her duties as Area Health Clerk on the 11th February, 1965, and to her I am indebted for the collection and compiling of the detailed material relating to Personal Health Services; this has been carried out most efficiently and to her also my thanks are due.

While special mention should be made of the various voluntary services who have done so much for the community in welfare matters, I would also express appreciation to all other Organisations outside of Local Government who have collaborated so willingly in supplying me with information regarding their activities.

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN A. DRYDEN,

Medical Officer of Health.

I. SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND PHYSICAL FEATURES

The Ryton Urban District is situated in the north-west extremity of the County and is bounded on the north by the River Tyne, on the south and east by tributaries known as local burns, the Blaydon, Barlow and Coal Burns, which separate it from the Blaydon Urban District, on the west by the Stanley Burn which forms the boundary between Ryton Urban District and the County of Northumberland.

The Ryton Urban District is divided into four wards, namely, Crookhill, Ryton, Crawcrook and Ryton Woodside. The Ryton, Crookhill and Crawcrook wards, although much lower than Greenside (600 ft.) and the country to the south, stand well above the level of the Tyne, which is about a mile to the north at Crawcrook and half a mile to the north at Ryton. The District has excellent natural drainage. The only low parts of the District are the two areas near to the river, one at Clara Vale and the other at Ryton Haughs, where there are two rows of houses near Newburn Bridge.

The greater part of the District is agricultural. There are a few sand and gravel quarries at Greenside and also at Crawcrook, where there is one brickyard.

Most of the population is employed at collieries, of which there are three, situated at Greenside, Clara Vale and Barmoor.

The soil is sand and clay.

II.

STATISTICS

General.

Acreage—5,145.

Number of inhabited houses:

Council 1,631	Other 3,441	Total 5,072
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Number of Other Premises: 326.

Rateable Value: £423,472.

Sum represented by a penny rate: £1,754 14s. 11d.

Vital.

Population — 1931—14,204

1951—13,779

1965—14,100

Density of persons per house: 2.78.

Birth: Comparability Factor: 1.04.

Live Births:	Male	Female	Total
Number	129	119	248
Rate (per 1,000 population):		Crude	C.F. Adjusted
Ryton Urban District		17.59	18.29
Durham County		18.10	17.70
England and Wales		18.00	—

Illegitimate Live Births:	Male	Female	Total
Number	8	4	12

Percentage of total live births: 4.84.

Still Births.	Male	Female	Total
Number	1	3	4

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births: 15.87.

Total Live and Still Births: 252.

Deaths: Comparability Factor: 1.06.

	Male	Female	Total
Number	103	85	108
Rate (per 1,000 population):		Crude	C.F. Adjusted
Ryton Urban District		13.33	14.13
Durham County		11.40	13.50
England and Wales		11.50	—

The commonest causes of death during 1965 were:

Coronary Disease, Angina	49
Other Defined and Ill-Defined diseases	27
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	26
Malignant Neoplasms at Defined Sites	22
Respiratory Disease	21
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	14 (+1)

Infant Mortality (deaths under 1 year)

	Male	Female	Total
Number	2	4	6

Mortality Rates (total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births)

Ryton Urban District	24.19
Durham County	20.57
England and Wales	19.00

Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births 25.42

Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births Nil

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births).....	24.15
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births).....	20.16
Perinatal Mortality (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	35.71

Causes of Infant Deaths:

Hydrocephalus and Spina Bifida	1
Prematurity	1
Primary atelectasis	1
Neonatal asphyxia	2
Cerebral anoxic damage	1

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

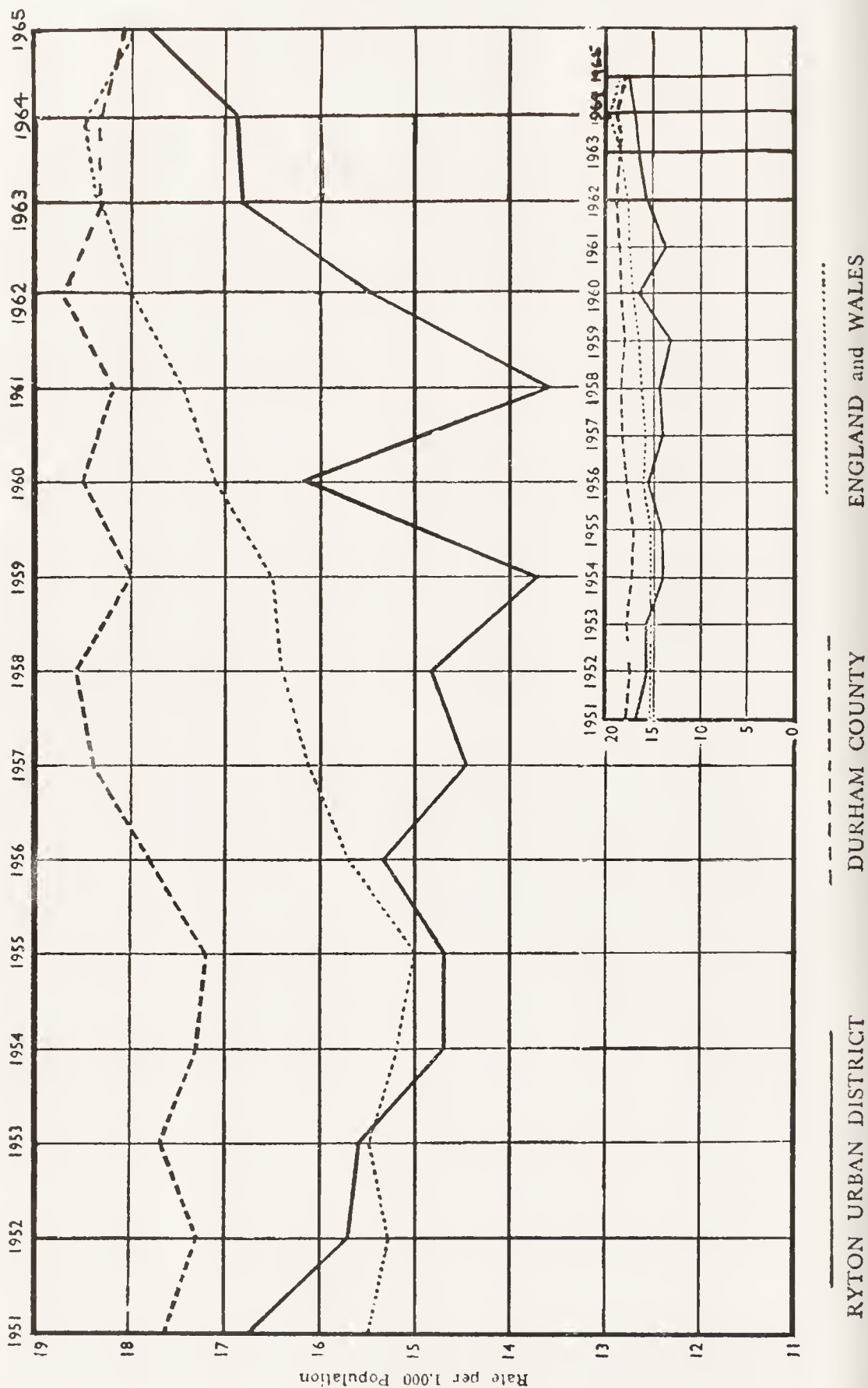
Number of deaths	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	0.00

The natural population increase for the year, i.e., the excess of births over deaths, was 60.

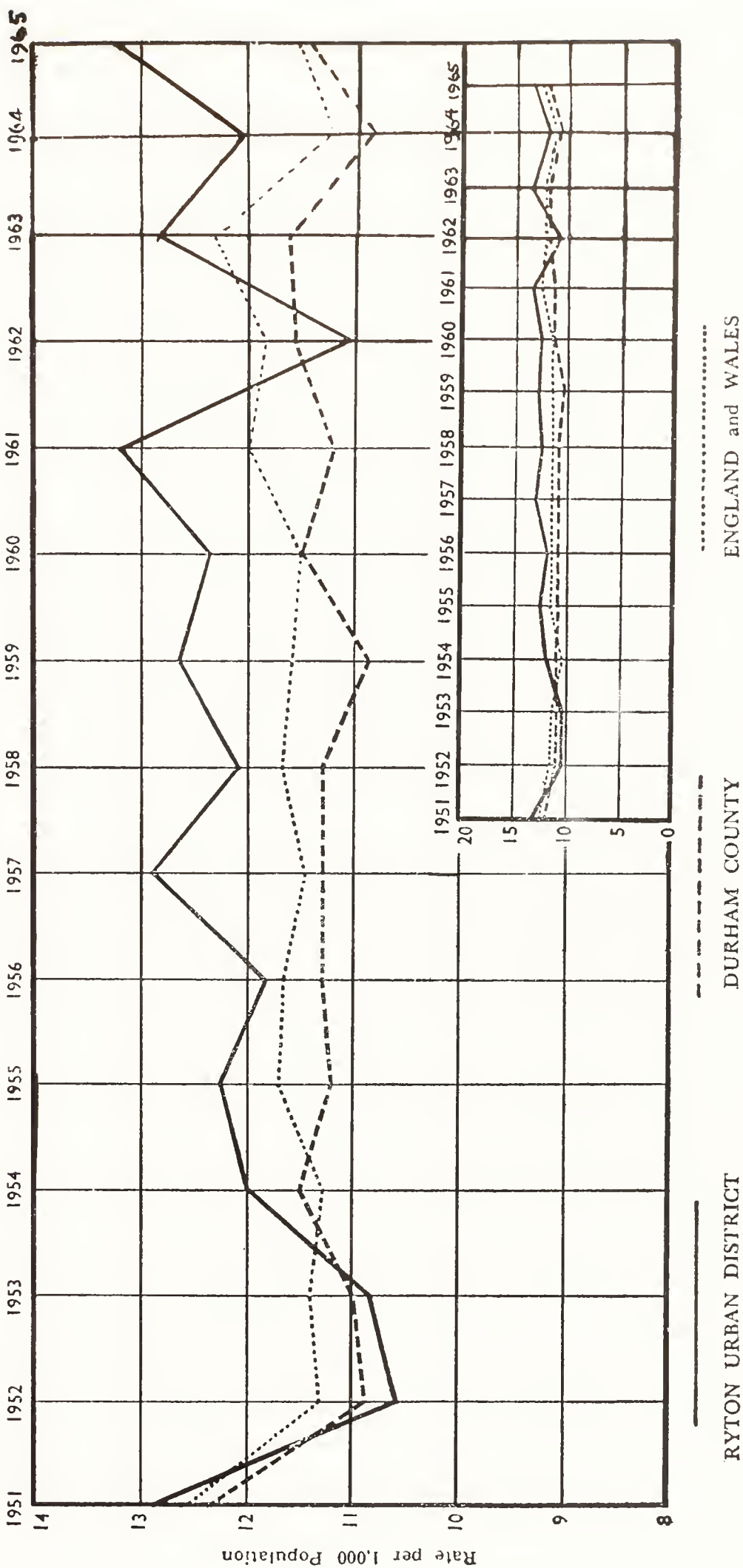
**The Registrar General's Short List of Causes of Death
during 1965**

Causes of Death	Males	Females	Total
1 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	—	—	—
2 Other Forms of Tuberculosis	—	—	—
3 Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—
4 Diphtheria	—	—	—
5 Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6 Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—
7 Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8 Measles	—	—	—
9 Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	—	—
10 Malignant Neoplasm—Stomach	1	3	4
11 Malignant Neoplasm—Lung and Bronchus	10	1	11
12 Malignant Neoplasm—Breast	—	4	4
13 Malignant Neoplasm—Uterus	—	3	3
14 Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	5	9	14
15 Leukaemia and Aleukaemia	1	—	1
16 Diabetes	1	1	2
17 Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	15	11	26
18 Coronary Disease, Angina	24	25	49
19 Hypertension with Heart Disease	2	—	2
20 Other Heart Diseases	4	6	10
21 Other Circulatory Diseases	3	3	6
22 Influenza	—	—	—
23 Pneumonia	3	—	3
24 Bronchitis	11	4	15
24 Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	2	3
26 Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	—	—	—
27 Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	—	—	—
28 Nephritis and Nephrosis	—	—	—
29 Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	—	1
30 Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	—	—	—
31 Congenital Malformations	1	—	1
32 Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	16	11	27
33 Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	—	2
34 All Other Accidents	2	2	4
35 Suicide	—	—	—
36 Homicide and Operations of War	—	—	—
Totals	103	85	188

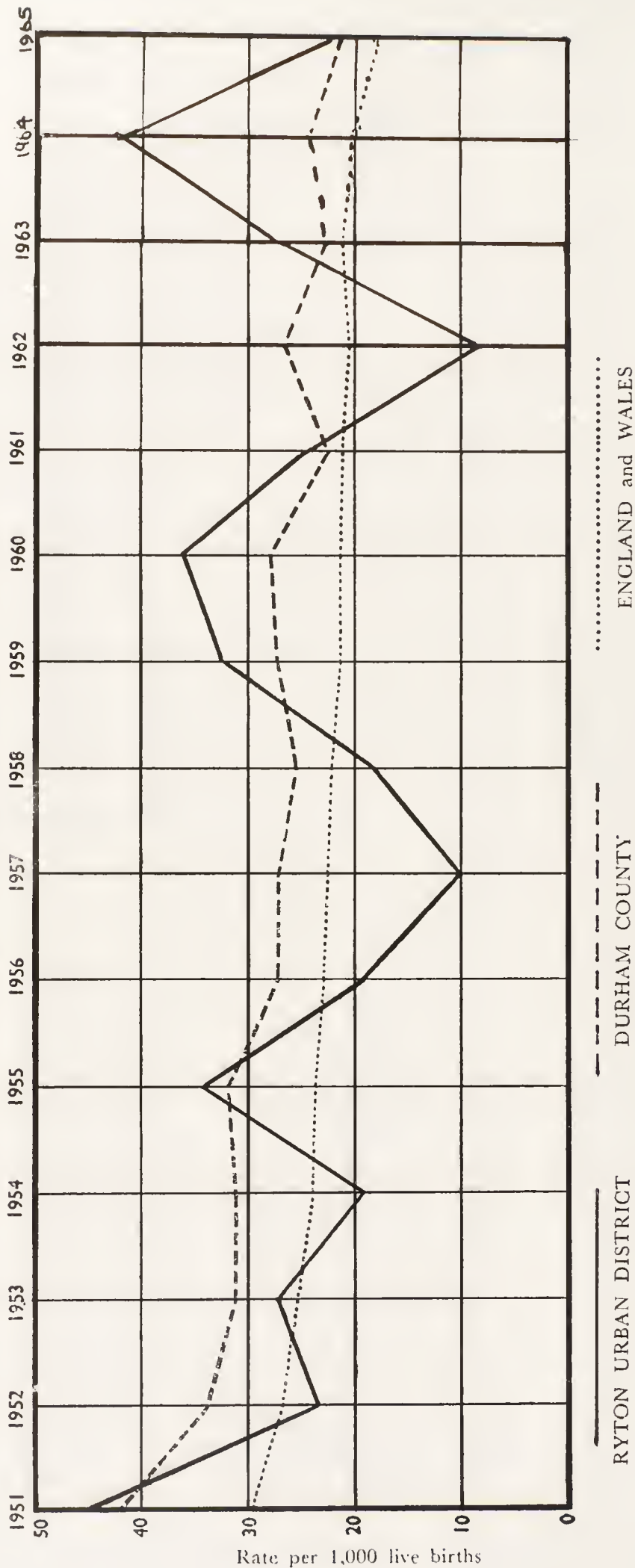
Graph comparing Crude Birth Rates of RYTON URBAN DISTRICT,
DURHAM COUNTY and ENGLAND and WALES, yearly since 1951



Graph comparing Crude Death Rates of RYTON URBAN DISTRICT, DURHAM COUNTY and ENGLAND and WALES, yearly since 1951.



Graph comparing Infant Mortality Rates for RYTON URBAN DISTRICT,
DURHAM COUNTY and ENGLAND and WALES, yearly since 1951.



Rate per 1,000 live births

III. GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

Hospital and Specialist Services Provision.

(1) Hospital Services.

Hospital facilities for the District are provided by the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board through the North-West Durham and Gateshead Hospital Management Committees.

(a) General.

The Royal Victoria Infirmary and the Newcastle General Hospital, Newcastle, the Bensham General and the Queen Elizabeth Hospitals, Gateshead, receive the majority of medical and surgical cases from the District. Some cases are also referred to and treated at the Hexham General Hospital as convenient. Hospital in-patient and out-patient treatment for suitable cases is also obtainable at the Dunston Hill Hospital; and the Whickham and District War Memorial Cottage Hospital undertakes the treatment of a limited number of medical and surgical cases. Lee Hill Hospital, Lanchester, has a bed capacity of 300 and caters for patients who are chronically sick, orthopaedic or geriatric in category. It also provides, under the National Assistance Act, Part III Accommodation for patients.

(b) Midwifery and Gynaecology.

The great majority of cases of this nature which require hospital treatment are sent either to the Princess Mary Maternity Hospital, Newcastle, the Bensham General or the Queen Elizabeth Hospitals, Gateshead, the Richard Murray Hospital, Shotley Bridge, or the Dilston Hall Maternity Hospital, Corbridge.

(c) Infectious Diseases.

(i) Tuberculosis.

Provision is made for the hospital treatment of tuberculous patients in sanatoria throughout the counties of Durham and Northumberland. Normans Riding Infectious Diseases Hospital, Winlaton, is used as a sanatorium for both male and female patients. There is a Chest Clinic attached to the Whickham and District War Memorial Cottage Hospital where a Chest Physician attends and holds regular clinical sessions. Early diagnosis of such sufferers, and their admission to hospital promptly thereafter, has now been achieved resulting in a much improved prospect of recovery and complete cure.

(ii) Venereal Diseases.

Specialist treatment is available for these complaints at the Venereal Diseases Clinic, Newcastle General Hospital, where every effort is made to maintain secrecy and avoid attendance becoming generally known. General practitioners are able to refer patients to the Clinic for necessary investigation and treatment.

(iii) Smallpox.

Provision is made at Langley Park Isolation Hospital for the isolation and treatment of cases of smallpox which, should such occur in the District, would be admitted thereto promptly.

(iv) Other Infectious Diseases.

Cases of other infectious diseases requiring isolation are treated either at the Sheriff Hill Infectious Diseases Hospital, Gateshead, or the Walkergate Hospital, Newcastle.

(d) Mental Health.

The Lee Hill Hospital, Lanchester, provides 44 beds for the accommodation of the mentally sick.

Cases of acute or severe mental illness are normally admitted to St. Nicholas' Hospital, Newcastle. Less severe cases can also be received there for care and treatment.

(e) Convalescent Home.

The establishment situate in Ryton Urban District, formerly known as the Castle Hill Convalescent Home, is now styled the Country Branch Annexe of the Royal Victoria Infirmary. It is no longer strictly a convalescent home and does not admit patients directly but only for pre or post Royal Victoria Infirmary treatment. There are 95 beds, 50 for women patients and the remainder for men.

(2) Laboratory Services.

The Public Health Laboratory Service for the District operates from the Public Health Laboratory, Pathological Institute, Newcastle General Hospital. By arrangement with the Durham County Council, all specimens for bacteriological examination are sent there by general practitioners, patients and Health Departments of the Local Authorities, and investigated and reported upon free of charge.

(3) Blood Transfusion Service.

The Regional Blood Transfusion Service has its Headquarters in the Newcastle General Hospital. It provides all necessary service for this District. It has a Donor Panel Department which organises and maintains Blood Donor Panels in each locality. In this District, during 1965, sessions were held as under. The figures show the strength of the panel on the dates listed, also the number of donations which were received on those dates.

Name of Panel	Sessions Centre	Date of Sessions	Strength of Panel	Attendance
Ryton (Central)	Lecture Hall, Ryton Methodist Church	25th January	168	103
		2nd August	168	82
Ryton (West)	Emma Memorial Hall	21st April	131	69
		27th October	131	78

(4) Mass Miniature Radiography.

The Mass Radiography Unit which serves this District is Unit 1A, which is based on the Newcastle General Hospital. A Mobile Unit visits Districts at times throughout the year and holds public sessions and sessions at industrial establishments. Although no sessions were held during 1965, it is expected that the Mass Radiography Unit will spend a week during 1966 in No. 1 Health Area (Blaydon, Ryton and Whickham Urban Districts) holding public sessions. It is possible that industrial establishments will also be visited.

Local Authority Provision.

(1) Local Health Authority.

The Local Health Authority for the Urban District is the Durham County Council which is responsible for the following Health Services:—

- (a) Health Centres
- (b) Maternity and Child Welfare
- (c) Midwifery
- (d) Health Visiting
- (e) Home Nursing
- (f) Vaccination and Immunisation
- (g) Ambulances
- (h) Prevention of Illness; Care and After-Care of sick persons
- (i) Home Help Service
- (j) Mental Health
- (k) Other Community Care Services
- (l) Central and Local Co-ordinating Committees
- (m) Health Education

(a) **Health Centres.**

There are, as yet, no Health Centres within the meaning of the Act in operation in the District.

(b) **Maternity and Child Welfare.**

Clinics, where mothers and children may attend for the treatment of minor ailments in school children, for dental and for sunray treatment, and for maternity and child welfare services, are provided by the Education and Health Departments of the Durham County Council at various Centres throughout the District. Centres in the District, where treatment is provided and welfare foods supplied, have sessions as listed below.

	Address of Centre		Sessions
Ryton	Grange Road	Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic	Mondays and Wednesdays weekly and Thursday mornings.
		Dental Clinic	Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays weekly.
		Distribution of Welfare Foods	Mondays weekly, Wednesday and Thursday mornings.
Greenside	Miners' Welfare Hall	Distribution of Welfare Foods	Tuesday afternoons.

Assistant Welfare Medical Officers attend certain sessions at Centres, information regarding which can be obtained at the appropriate Centre.

On the stated days, the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics are open from 9.30 a.m.—12 noon and from 1.30—4 p.m., and the Centres for the distribution of Welfare Foods from 10 a.m.—12 noon and 2—4 p.m.

(c) **Midwifery.**

An expectant mother can have the services of any doctor who undertakes maternity work as part of the General Practitioner Service organised by the Durham Executive Council. Ante-natal and post-natal care are available at Local Health Authority Clinics. A domiciliary midwifery service is also provided. The names, addresses and telephone numbers of the District Midwives are given below.

Ward	Name	Address	Tel. No.
Ryton	Miss M. J. Stobart	37 Tyne Gardens, Crookhill	Ryton 2712
Crawcrook } Greenside }	Mrs. I. Hall	"Zion", Sunnygill, Greenside	Ryton 2167

72 births in the District were notified by District Midwives during the year.

(d) **Health Visiting.**

Health Visitors attend persons in their homes for the purpose of giving advice to aged or ill persons, to advise expectant and nursing mothers on the care of young children and to stress the measures necessary to prevent the spread of infection. The names and addresses, and telephone numbers as available, of the District Health Visitors and the number and types of domiciliary visits carried out in the District are given below.

Ward	Name	Address	Tel. No.
Ryton	Miss E. V. Henrich	East House, Greenside	Ryton 2558
	Miss U. Elliott	35 Barlow Lane Winlaton, Blaydon	Blaydon 3204
Addison } Greenside } Hedgefield } Woodside }	Mrs. F. M. Cavanagh	2 Woodlands Road, Shotley Bridge	Shotley Bridge 3158

Domiciliary Visits :

Maternity and Child Welfare	1,525
Tuberculosis	64
Mentally Sub-normal	94
Schools	102
General Health	104
Aged People	135
TOTAL —	2,024

(e) Home Nursing.

A Home Nursing Service is provided as the responsibility of the Local Health Authority. Any requests for the services of a Home Nurse should be made to the Superintendent of Home Nursing at County Hall, Durham (Tel. No. Durham 4411); or to one of the District Nurses whose names, addresses and telephone numbers are listed below.

Ward	Name	Address	Tel. No.
Ryton	Mrs. K. Waggott	6 Runhead Estate, Ryton	Ryton 2246
Greenside	Mrs. M. J. Gray	West House, Greenside	Ryton 2332
Crawcrook	Mrs. E. L. Adamson	Bank Top Cottage, Greenside	Ryton 2461

8,980 visits were made by the District Nurses during the year.

(f) Vaccination and Immunisation.

Immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus may be obtained free of charge on application at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres or from any General Medical Practitioner in the National Health Service.

Immunisation against poliomyelitis is available, free of charge, for all unprotected persons under forty years of age and not less than six months old on the date of application, for all expectant mothers and for certain other specified persons, on application to General Medical Practitioners, to the County Health Department in Durham, to the Assistant County Medical Officer for the Area or at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres. Sessions are also arranged at clinics in the District where eligible persons may receive such protection. Protection is now preponderantly by oral vaccine although immunisation is still available by injection.

Yearly schemes are arranged by the Assistant County Medical Officer for the immunisation at school of school children against diphtheria, tetanus and poliomyelitis.

Vaccination against smallpox may be obtained free of charge on application to any General Medical Practitioner who has agreed to give service within the National Health Service General Practitioner Service; and, for children, also at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis may be carried out, in appropriate circumstances, by the Chest Physician at the Chest Clinic at Whickham. The vaccination with B.C.G. of all non-immune school children over eleven years is carried out yearly by the Assistant County Medical Officer for the Area.

Statistics of immunisations and vaccinations carried out in the District are given in Part IV of this Report.

(g) Ambulance Service.

The Durham County Council Health Department controls and provides the ambulance facilities for the Administrative County.

All requests for an ambulance should be made to the Message Receiving Centre at the Ambulance Headquarters Control, Framwellgate Moor, Durham (Tel. No. Durham 3426), which is responsible for such service to the No. 1 Health Area. The Centre is open for message reception for 24 hours a day, but its telephone number will be changed, as from the 2nd February, 1966, to Durham 4488.

A General Service Sub-Depot at Winlaton deals, on instruction from Durham, with routine work of the service from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays to Fridays, and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays.

Details of the work carried out in respect of No. 1 Health Area are given below:—

Stretcher Cases	Sitting Cases	Journeys	Miles
1,577	19,175	3,588	107,341

(h) **Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care of Sick Persons.**

Nursing equipment for sick persons is provided, by Durham County Council, on request through General Medical Practitioners, District Nurses or Hospital Almoners. Invalid chairs are also available; and extra nourishment or bedding can be supplied to patients suffering from tuberculosis. A charge is normally made for these services but, in certain circumstances, the charge may be reduced or waived altogether.

The under-listed items of equipment can be so supplied.

Adult Cots	Chairs (Push)	Fracture Boards
Air Rings	Chairs (Junior Push)	Junior Spinal Carriages
Bed Cages	Chairs (Rim-Driven)	Leg Rests
Bed Packs	Commodore	Lifting Poles
Bedpans	Dunlopillo Cushions	Mattresses (Sorbo)
Bedrests	Eneuresis Sets	Rubber Sheeting
Bedsteads (Iron)		Urinals

Equipment was received by 43 residents in the District during 1965.

Limited accommodation is available in convalescent homes provided by voluntary agencies and by the County Council; information regarding this can be obtained from the County Health Department. Domiciliary visits are made to patients at home by Health Visitors and District Nurses.

Chiropody Service.

As the Local Health Authority for the District, the County Council finances its Chiropody Service. Treatment is carried out by a fully qualified chiropodist in the employ of the County Council. All residents of pensionable age are eligible for this service should they require it.

The first clinical session was held on the 18th December, 1964, and continued to be held once weekly throughout 1965. The service is administered, and clerical work in connection therewith is carried out, by the Area Health Office, whilst the executive control and details are in the charge of the chiropodist, who has ancillary help from voluntary personnel living in the District.

The number of residents on the Register at the end of 1965 was 196 and the average attendance at each session was 8, 340 treatments having been given during the year. Because of the great and continuing increase of numbers on the Register, County Council plans for expanding the service to two or three sessions per week early in 1966 were nearing completion and, at the date of this Report, had already been brought into effect

(i) Home Help Services.

Domestic help is provided for households where such help is needed because of the presence of any person who is an expectant mother, lying-in, ill, aged or a child not over school age. Requests for the services of a Home Help can be made to the Assistant Organiser, Mrs. Lawther, 62, Barkwood Road, Rowlands Gill. Anyone wishing to contact her can do so at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Axwell Park, Blaydon, every Friday morning between 9 and 11 a.m. (Tel. No. Blaydon 3291), or at her home (Tel. No. Rowlands Gill 2306).

Details of work undertaken by the Home Help Service in No. I Health Area during the year are given below.

Number of cases at 1/1/65	439
New cases served during the year	312
Total number of cases served during the year	751
Cases terminated during the year	182
Cases served at 31/12/65	569
Number of Home Helps employed at 31/12/65	345
Visits made by Assistant Organisers during year	4,712

(j) Mental Health.

Under the Mental Health Act, 1959, the Local Health Authority is responsible for domiciliary supervision, care and after-care, of the mentally sick and the educationally subnormal.

An Adult Residential Training Centre for the Educationally Subnormal of the County is situated at Lanchester. Residents live-in from Monday to Friday of each week, returning home at the week-end.

For non-adults, a similar but non-residential Junior Training Centre is established at Consett. There is also, at Gateshead, a Day Centre for the Educationally Subnormal which can be attended by residents from Whickham, Dunston and Swalwell. There are two such Centres, the Junior Training Centre for boys and girls under sixteen years, and the Senior Training Centre for older boys.

Additionally, some children in No. 1 Health Area continue to attend daily the Training Centre at the Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital, Prudhoe.

Statistics are given below of the number of residents from this District being supervised or cared for by County Council staff as a responsibility under this Act.

No. of Persons registered as Mentally Subnormal	No. of Persons under Supervision	No. of Persons in Hospitals
52	36	35

(k) Other Community Care Services.

The names, addresses, telephone numbers and scope of duties of the various Field Officers for these Services, are set out below.

Home Teacher of the Blind

Name and Address	Tel. No	Nature of Duties
Miss J. Coulthard, 10 Ravensworth Terrace, Dunston, Gateshead, 11		Domiciliary visiting of blind and partially sighted persons.

Mental Welfare Officers

Name and Address	Tel. No.	Nature of Duties
Mr. W. M. A. Thomson. 20 Ardrossan, Wentworth Park Estate, Ouston	Birtley 2561	Removal of mentally ill patients to hospital under Mental Health Act, 1959. Supervision of subnormal persons, mainly adult males. After-care of mentally ill persons.
Miss S. V. Kelly, Health Department, County Hall, Durham	Durham 4411 (Ext. 375) Stanley 2683	Responsible for supervision of certain subnormal and psychiatric cases and distribution of Section 57 (Exclusion from School) letters.

(The Mental Welfare Officers may be contacted at their own homes between 9—10 a.m. and 4—5 p.m.; if not available, a message may be left at Durham 4411 Ext. 372.)

Social Workers

Name and Address	Tel. No.	Nature of Duties
Miss J. Coulthard, 10 Ravensworth Terrace, Dunston, Gateshead, 11.		Casework in respect of handicapped persons.
Mrs. E. S. Elliott, Area Health Office, Council Chambers, Chester-le-Street	Chester-le-Street 2242 (Until 9.30 each morning except Tuesdays when in County Hall)	Casework in respect of handicapped persons, some problem families and evictions.
Mr. A. Robertson, Area Health Office, Council Chambers, Chester-le-Street	do.	do.

Area Children's Officer

Name and Address	Tel. No.
Miss M. Bloomfield, 11 Station Road, Stanley	Stanley 2792

Child Care Officers

To be contacted at Stanley 2792	To be contacted at Houghton-le-Spring 3210
Mr. S. Adair Mrs. F. Gordon Mrs. V. Graham Mr. K. Grimes Mr. S. Horswill	Mrs. C. P. Bowers Miss A. E. Kidd Mr. J. F. McLean Miss A. Smith Miss M. Wheldon

(l) Central and Local Co-ordinating Committees.

The above Committees, the setting-up of which was recorded in my previous Report, continued to meet at regular intervals; and the Assistant County Medical Officer for each District acted as Chairman of the appropriate Local Committee.

During the year 1965, three meetings of the No. 1 Health Area Local Co-ordinating Committee were held. The under-listed voluntary organisations were represented.

British Red Cross Society
Community Centres
Old People's Welfare Committees
St. John Ambulance Brigade
Women's Voluntary Service for Civil Defence

These meetings were well attended and it is felt that they served a very useful purpose in making known to the different organisations the scope of work undertaken by each and thereby determining how such voluntary work could most usefully cover the needs of the Area.

(m) Health Education.

Under the Public Health Act, 1936, Local Health and Local Sanitary Authorities have power to arrange programmes of health education within their area of jurisdiction. Additionally, Local Health Authorities are further authorised in this respect in various sections of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

No special development in this direction has yet taken place but, as in previous years, Ministry and Central Council for Health Education posters and pamphlets have been distributed widely to appropriate organisations, for display on the premises

and distribution to staff. This has particularly applied to food hygiene and anti-smoking publications. It has still not been possible to arrange the visit to the Area of the Mobile Team of the Central Council for Health Education, referred to in my Report last year but it is hoped that progress in this matter will not be long delayed.

(2) Local Sanitary Authority.

The Local Sanitary Authority for the Urban District is the District Council, and the work carried out by the District Health Department is discussed in detail later in the Report.

(a) Meals on Wheels.

A Meals on Wheels Service, sponsored by this Council with financial assistance jointly from the District and County Councils and run by the Ryton Branch of the Women's Voluntary Service, was commenced in December, 1964 and, throughout 1965, catered for meals for 24 residents to whom hot meals were delivered twice per week.

A register is kept of persons who would wish to accept this service if offered but, at the date of this Report, it is considered that all really needy cases are catered for. Should further meals be required, it would be necessary to find an additional canteen able to supply such and this could prove difficult.

The co-operation and invaluable work of the Women's Voluntary Service in running this service and the supply of the necessary meals from Stella South Power Station Canteen have been and are greatly appreciated.

(b) Old People's Welfare Committee.

After preliminary meetings held in mid-1965, it was resolved to form a District Old People's Welfare Committee. The inaugural meeting was held on the 27th September, officials were elected, and it was decided to hold meetings monthly, the first meeting of the new Committee being held on the 25th October. The remainder of the year was devoted mainly to the planning of welfare services which this Committee could organise. As there already existed in the District a very adequate Meals on Wheels Service and a very active County Chiropody Service, the attention of the Committee was primarily devoted to schemes for the opening of Luncheon Clubs throughout the District. Methods of financing welfare projects, additional to contributions from County and District Councils, were discussed.

Executive Council Provision.

The Durham Executive Council is responsible for the provision of the General Medical and Dental, the Pharmaceutical and the Supplementary Ophthalmic Services for the District. Medical practices in the District are largely partnerships of two or more doctors.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS ACT, 1963.

The Co-ordinating Committees dealing with children neglected in their homes, which were re-named Family Case Conferences last year, continued to meet four-monthly. For the year 1965, your Medical Officer of Health, as Assistant County Medical Officer for this Area, presided as Chairman in accordance with previous agreement.

The statistics of the District work undertaken throughout 1965 are given below.

Number of families under discussion on 1st January, 1965	Number of families added to agenda	Number of families on which discussion closed	Number of families remaining for discussion
—	1	1	—

EDUCATION ACT, 1944.

Local Authority.

The Durham County Council is the Local Education Authority for the Urban District.

School Health Services.

The School Health Services are provided by the County Council. These are the responsibility of the County Medical Officer who, as Principal School Medical Officer, carries out the requirements of the Act through his Deputy and staff. The services provide for systematic medical inspection, by routine attendances at schools of a School Medical Officer, and for the medical and dental treatment of school children. Special School Clinics have been built—often a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre functions in the same building—where a School Medical Officer attends on a sessional basis.

When a child is found at medical examination to require specialist examination or treatment, arrangements are made, with the agreement of the parents and the family doctor, for the child to attend the appropriate hospital or clinic. Facilities are provided at school clinics for the treatment of minor ailments, defective vision, dental and speech defects. Special schools are provided for handicapped children who are educationally subnormal or delicate. When necessary, arrangements are made for other handicapped children to be placed in special schools maintained by other Authorities.

HOUSING ACTS, 1924–1957.

Aged Persons Accommodation.

The Council completed their immediate programme at Emmaville with the erection of 22 Aged-Persons' bungalows and 8 Single-Persons' flats together with a warden's hostel and a communal centre.

Work proceeded during the year in connection with a further estate of bungalows and flats, including a communal centre and warden's accommodation. 12 flats and 26 bungalows were completed and occupied during the year.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948–1951.

Section 21—Provision of Residential Accommodation.

Hostel accommodation is provided by the County in No. 1 Health Area at:—
Winton House, Parkhead Estate, Winlaton. Tel. No. Blaydon 2900
"The Hermitage", Front Street, Whickham. Tel. No. Whickham 887372
Derwentdale House, Ryton. Tel. No. Ryton 2009

The hostel at Ryton was opened for the reception of residents on the 19th August, 1965. It provides 45 beds and housed 40 residents, 17 male and 23 female, at the end of 1965.

Residents requiring such type of accommodation can be admitted also to any of the County Hostels throughout Durham County. Information regarding these can be obtained from the Assistant County Medical Officer.

At the end of the year, 37 residents of the District, 25 males and 12 females, were accommodated in Residential Part III Accommodation.

Section 47—Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in Need of Care and Attention.

Although the Council are authorised under these Acts, in certain cases, to apply for compulsory powers to remove persons in need of care and attention, in most cases people are anxious to remain in their own homes. It has not been found necessary during this year to take such action. While there is increasing evidence of persons who are aged, infirm, living alone and in need of some degree of

assistance, with the co-operation of the Home Help Service and the Welfare Department of the Local Health Authority, and of the National Assistance Board, it has been possible to effect improvement in the welfare of these persons in their homes or by admission to Part III Accommodation on a voluntary basis. As a result, recourse to compulsory powers is rarely needed.

Section 50—Burial and Cremation of the Dead.

Under the above Section, Local Authorities are required to arrange for the burial or cremation of the dead where no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body are otherwise available. One instance arose in 1965 where it was necessary to use the powers provided.

IV.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

PREVALENCE

The number of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year was 177 as compared with 15 in 1964.

Table comparing Numbers of Notifications during the years 1964/65.

	No. of Cases 1964				No. of Cases 1965			
	Notified			Confirmed by Laboratory	Notified			Confirmed by Laboratory
	M.	F.	Total		M.	F.	Total	
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	6	2	8	—	87	80	167	—
Acute Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis Respiratory	3	2	5	—	4	4	8	5
Meninges & C.N.S.	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Other Forms	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	10	5	15	—	92	85	177	5

Incidence of Principal Infectious Diseases since 1956

Year	ScarletFever		Diphtheria		Typhoid and Paratyphoid		Measles		Whooping Cough		Tuber- culosis	
	Cases Noti- fied	Deaths	Cases Noti- fied	Deaths	Cases Noti- fied	Deaths	Cases Noti- fied	Deaths	Cases Noti- fied	Deaths	Cases Noti- fied	Deaths
1956	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	16	2
1957	2	—	—	—	—	—	326	—	39	—	11	1
1958	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	24	—	14	—
1959	3	—	—	—	—	—	170	—	—	—	8	1
1960	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	11	3
1961	2	—	—	—	—	—	303	—	1	—	8	—
1962	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	5	1
1963	2	—	—	—	—	—	238	—	2	—	4	1
1964	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	7	—
1965	2	—	—	—	—	—	167	—	—	—	8	1

**Table of Infectious Diseases notified during 1965
showing Monthly and Ward Distribution**

	MONTHS													WARDS			
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December		TOTALS	Ryton	Greenside	Crawcrook	Crookhill
Scarlet Fever	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	3	49	36	2	41	25	3	5	—	1	1	1	167	41	55	60	11
Acute Pneumonia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Respiratory	2	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	8	2	1	1	4
Meninges & C.N.S.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Forms	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	5	49	37	5	42	25	3	5	2	2	1	1	177	43	56	61	17

**Table of Infectious Diseases showing
Age Group Distribution during 1965**

	Total Cases Notified	AGE GROUP										
		Under 1 year	1-2 years	3-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-19 years	20-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 and over	Age unknown
Scarlet Fever	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	167	13	52	51	51	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Respiratory	8	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	2	2	—	—
Meninges & C.N.S	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Forms	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	177	13	52	51	53	—	1	3	2	2	—	—

Scarlet Fever.

2 cases of scarlet fever were notified.

The policy of home treatment of this disease has continued where satisfactory isolation arrangements were possible. When hospital isolation is considered necessary, this has always been possible to arrange by admission to Sheriff Hill Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Diphtheria.

No cases of diphtheria have been notified since 1953.

Poliomyelitis.

No cases of poliomyelitis have been notified since 1961.

Smallpox.

No cases of smallpox have been notified since 1927.

Dysentery.

No cases of dysentery have been notified since 1957.

Typhoid Fever.

No cases of typhoid fever have been notified since 1950.

Paratyphoid Fever.

No cases of paratyphoid fever have been notified since 1953.

Food Poisoning.

No cases of food poisoning have been notified since 1957.

Tuberculosis

8 cases of tuberculosis were notified, all respiratory. Details of the incidence of this disease and the number of persons currently registered are shown in the following table:—

New Cases and Morality during 1965.

Age Periods (year)	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—24	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—44	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—64	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 years and over	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	4	4	—	—	1	—	—	—

Tuberculosis Register.

	Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Total		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
On register at 1/1/65	32	29	61	3	3	6	35	32	67
New Cases	4	4	8	—	—	—	4	4	8
Cases moved into District	2	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	2
TOTAL	38	33	71	3	3	6	41	36	77
Recovered	1	8	9	—	1	1	1	9	10
Cases moved out of District	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Died	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
On register at 31/12/65	36	25	61	3	2	5	39	27	66

CONTROL.

Below are given statistics and information of the measures which have been taken for the protection, of residents in the District, against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Poliomyelitis, Smallpox and Tuberculosis.

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus.

Protection against each of these infections can be given separately or jointly, and details of the work undertaken through health services in this District are given below.

Diphtheria.

General Practitioner, and Child Welfare (L.A.), Services.

Children born in ...	1958-61	1962	1963	1964	1965
Primary	8	2	6	127	99
Boosters	112	5	75	25	—

Area Health (L.A.) Services (in Schools).

Children born in ...	1958-61	1962	1963	1964	1965
Primary	10	—	—	—	—
Boosters	45	—	—	—	—

Whooping Cough.

General Practitioner, and Child Welfare (L.A.), Services.

Children born in ...	1958-61	1962	1963	1964	1965
Primary	3	2	6	125	99
Boosters	38	5	75	24	—

Tetanus.

General Practitioner, and Child Welfare (L.A.), Services.

Children born in ..	1958-61	1962	1963	1964	1965
Primary	23	2	6	127	99
Boosters	98	5	75	25	—

Area Health (L.A.) Services (in Schools).

Children born in ...	1958-61	1962	1963	1964	1965
Primary	10	—	—	—	—
Boosters	13	—	—	—	—

Poliomyelitis.

Details of the number of primary vaccinations and boosters given during the year 1965 are as shown below.

Primary Vaccinations (Injections and Oral).

Salk (Injections).

2 primary courses were given.

Sabin (Oral).

286 primary courses and 191 booster doses of oral vaccine were given.

Smallpox.

Primary Vaccination

Under 1 year	1 year	2-4 years	5-14 years	15 years or over	Total
9	91	11	—	1	112

Re-Vaccination

Under 1 year	1 year	2-4 years	5-14 years	15 years or over	Total
—	—	—	—	—	—

Tuberculosis.

B.C.G. Vaccination.

Details of the programmes of B.C.G. vaccination carried out by the Area Health Services in schools in 1965 are given below.

	No. Vaccinated	No. Heaf Positive	Non-Consents	Total in Age Group
Ryton Modern	94	19	1	137
Crawcrook Roman Catholic ...	5	3	3	11
Total ...	99	22	4	148

V.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

1. Water Supply.

The supply of water for the District is provided by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co. except for the thirteen houses in the Blaydon Burn area, which are supplied by the Durham County Water Board, and five houses in isolated parts of the District, which depend on wells and springs.

The mains water is of good quality and the supply is continuous and plentiful.

Samples taken from the wells were found on analysis to be of satisfactory bacteriological standard and the supplies from these sources proved adequate during the year.

The following are details of the houses and population supplied.

	Houses	Population
Number supplied from public water mains direct to houses	5,067	14,083
Number supplied from wells and springs	5	17
	<hr/> 5,072	<hr/> 14,100

(a) Durham County Water Board.

13 premises in this District are supplied by the Board.

Of the 42 samples taken to check the bacteriological quality of the water, 32 were classed as excellent.

The work carried out in the Urban District has been in connection with the usual extension of mains required for housing development. Work on the new Honey Hill Treatment Works is still progressing. These works, when completed, will supply water to the District.

(b) Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company.

Approximately 5,000 premises in this District are supplied by the Company.

A total of 1,233 works control samples from the Whittle Dene and Henderson Filters were examined in the Company's Laboratory during the calendar year ended 31st December, 1965, and, of these, 98.94% were of "excellent" quality. In addition to the foregoing, 216 samples of water from the Warkworth Filter Plant were examined and all were of "excellent" quality.

8 samples taken at random in this District were all "excellent".

During the year, the following new mains were laid in the District:—

- 350 linear yards of 3" diameter pipes.
- 1,245 linear yards of 4" diameter pipes.
- 382 linear yards of 8" diameter pipes.

This Council has indicated to the Durham County Council its support of the policy to fluoridate all water supplies.

2. Rivers and Streams.

No formal action under this heading was required during the year. The condition of Westburn, Crawcrook, was considerably improved by the replacement of two small sewage works by a pumping station, discharging into the Council sewers.

3. Closet Accommodation.

With the exception of some agricultural properties and nine dwellinghouses in unsewered parts of the District, all houses are equipped with water closets. The elimination of all privies and ash closets and their conversion to a watercarriage

system is a matter worthy of every possible effort. Apart from the health aspect of the continued use of insanitary accommodation, there is increasing reluctance on the part of labour to empty and cleanse such closets.

Efforts continue to be made to eliminate this insanitary type of closet and the acceptance of standard grants is encouraged.

4. Collection and Disposal of Refuse.

The Council is directly responsible for the whole of refuse collection and disposal in the District.

The majority of the houses are provided with dustbins which are emptied twice weekly where necessary; the remainder are emptied once weekly. The service was consistently maintained throughout the year during which 288,535 recepticals were emptied, the estimated tonnage disposed of being 5,664.

Four collection vehicles of the following types were used:—

Karrier Gamecock	.....	1955	10 cubic yard capacity
Karrier Bantam	.....	1956	7 cubic yard capacity
Karrier Gamecock	.....	1959	10 cubic yard capacity
Dual Tip	.....	1963	18 cubic yard capacity

Refuse was disposed of at the following tipping sites:—

1. Crawcrook Quarry.
2. Burnhills Quarry.

These quarries provided excellent tipping facilities, are remote from housing development and met all requirements. As a result of the longer hauls which this arrangement has necessitated, a large capacity vehicle was purchased to replace one of the smaller side-loading vehicles.

5. Drainage and Sewerage.

Practically all sewerage is discharged, untreated, by three main and two subsidiary outfalls into the River Tyne. Exceptions to this are the properties at Coalburns and Holburn Dene Estate, which discharge to local treatment plants. In practice, it is considered that these small type sewage disposal plants, which serve a useful purpose for isolated development, are not satisfactory in the centre of urban development. They seldom produce an effluent of really good quality and can give rise to nuisance, particularly from odour. So far as future development is concerned, a comprehensive sewerage system for the District would be preferable to the installation of a number of scattered small works.

6. Atmospheric Pollution.

Measurement of smoke and sulphur dioxide concentrations continued during the year. A summary of the results for the completed months is given below:—

Period			Smoke (Microgrammes/cubic metre)		Sulphur Dioxide (Microgrammes/cubic metre)	
			Average	Highest Daily	Average	Highest Daily
1/12/64 —	4/ 1/65	...	N *	632	N *	179
5/ 1/65 —	1/ 2/65	...	150	416	70	128
2/ 2/65 —	1/ 3/65	...	117	239	79	110
2/ 3/65 —	5/ 4/65	...	159	337	97	145
6/ 4/65 —	3/ 5/65	...	74	142	68	110
4/ 5/65 —	31/ 5/65	...	74	184	60	109
1/ 6/65 —	5/ 7/65	...	43	97	56	97
6/ 7/65 —	2/ 8/65	...	37	98	59	72
3/ 8/65 —	6/ 9/65	...	51	124	63	118
7/ 9/65 —	4/10/65	...	88	240	69	132
5/10/65 —	1/11/65	...	206	448	132	226
2/11/65 —	6/12/65	...	251	500	134	223

N * — Insufficient number of results.

7. Noise Abatement.

Under the Noise Abatement Act, 1960, which came into force on 27th November, 1960, noise or vibration which amounts to a nuisance at Common Law becomes a statutory nuisance to be dealt with in accordance with the procedure of the Public Health Act, 1936. Local Authorities are empowered to serve, where applicable, abatement notices upon the person or persons in default. The Act does not apply to aircraft or to noise caused by statutory undertakings in the performance of their powers. Special provision is made in the case of nuisance arising from a trade or business and in the case of loud speakers used in the streets.

Three complaints were dealt with informally during the year.

8. Moveable Dwellings and Caravan Sites.

Licences, relating to the stationing of a single caravan, were in force during the year in respect of two sites in the District.

9. Offensive Trades.

No establishments, defined as "offensive trades" under Section 107 of the Public Health Act, 1936, operate in the District.

10. Shops Act, 1950.

The main provisions of this Act are administered by the County Council except for requirements relating to temperature, ventilation and sanitary accommodation.

Shop premises were inspected during the year and it was found that conditions in these respects were satisfactory.

Three instances arose where it was found that the shop temperature was not maintained at a level sufficient to ensure comfortable conditions for employees and, in each case, the matter was rectified by an informal approach to the proprietors.

11. Factories.

Twenty-eight factories remain registered, categorised as follows:—

Quilt Manufacture	1
Building Trade	1
Garages	4
Television Repairs	3
Slaughterhouses	2
Bakeries	3
Joineries	3
Brick and Tile Manufacture	1
Boot Repairs	1
Electrical	3
Adhesives	1
Pit Props	1
Light Engineering	3
Stationery Manufacture	1

All factories were visited regularly and conditions found to be generally satisfactory. In eight instances, it was necessary to make requirements concerning matters for which this Council is administratively responsible.

12. Common Lodging Houses.

No common lodging houses exist in the District.

13. Licensed Premises and Clubs.

These are listed in the register of food premises and were inspected regularly under the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955/1960.

14. Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

(a) Rodent Control.

Regular treatment of the Council's sewers was carried out, in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and has undoubtedly played a major part in controlling rat infestations in the District. All complaints received were investigated and advice given on suitable methods of treatment. Treatment of business premises was carried out on a re-chargeable basis and, in other cases, baits and poison were laid free of charge. The policy of the Council is to encourage notification of rat infestations and to co-operate to the fullest possible extent to secure the destruction of rats and mice. In many cases, it is found that rat infestation is primarily due to unsatisfactory environmental conditions on the site; for example, the keeping of animals in insanitary conditions, the haphazard storage of feeding stuffs and the insanitary state of gardens, garden sheds, etc. Where infestation occurs, every opportunity is taken to eradicate the unsatisfactory conditions which are so often a feature of the locality affected.

A summary of the work carried out is given below:—

Number of Properties in District	5,604
Number of Properties inspected	3,361
Number of properties inspected, found to be infested with:—	
(a) rats, major infestations	Nil
rats, minor infestations	146
(b) mice	53

In the case of business premises, necessary treatment was given on a re-chargeable basis. A standard charge of 6/- per hour, to cover labour and materials, was made.

Number of Properties treated:—

	Dwelling- houses	Business premises	Agricultural premises	Local Authority premises
Rats	90	48	14	8
Mice	33	17	9	3

(b) Insect Control.

Insect infestation does not present a serious problem in the District. Such complaints as have been received relate usually to the more common household insects which are not regarded as of particular public health significance. Infestations by ants, cockroaches and silverfish have been dealt with but the number of complaints has tended to diminish, possibly due to the availability, by public sale, of effective fumigants and powders. The higher standards of house building also tend to reduce infestations of this nature which have been reported more often from the older, terrace type properties.

15. The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act was passed on the 31st July, 1963. The Act is intended to make provision for securing the health, safety and welfare of persons employed in such premises. The Act came into force in stages commencing on 18th February, 1964.

Those premises, to which the Act applies and in respect of which the Council is the enforcing authority, were visited during the year and advice given to employers as to their responsibilities and obligations under the Act.

A number of contraventions of the Act were found in respect of failure to register the premises, failure to provide a hot water supply and washing facilities, failure to provide a thermometer, failure to provide first aid materials and failure to display an abstract of the Act. In each case, conditions were remedied without recourse to formal action.

REGISTRATION

Class of Premises	No. of premises registered during the year	No. of registered premises at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	Nil	16	12
Retail shops	2	80	58
Wholesale shops, warehouses	Nil	1	Nil
Catering establishments open to public, canteens	1	11	4
Fuel Storage depots ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Totals	3	108	74

Number of visits by inspectors to all kinds of registered premises, 156.

ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

Class of Workplace	Number of Persons Employed
Offices	24
Retail shops	258
Wholesale departments, warehouses	34
Catering establishments open to public	40
Canteens	Nil
Fuel Storage depots	Nil
Total	356
Total Males	128
Total Females	228

16. Cinemas.

There are no cinemas which are used as such within the District.

17. Swimming Pool.

The open air swimming pool provided by the Council at Ferndene Park is filled from the main supply and treatment is provided by filtration, chlorination and aeration. Regular samples of the water were taken during the season and submitted for bacteriological examination. The result in every case showed the samples of water to be of the highest attainable bacteriological standard.

18. Disinfection of Houses.

Disinfectants are supplied by the Council free of charge when infectious disease occurs. In practice, it is now found that such supply is required only in the case of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

19. Mortuary.

There is one mortuary situated at Ryton Cemetery.

20. Schools.

The condition of the schools throughout the District was satisfactory.

21. Recreation Grounds.

The recreation parks, at Ferndene, Ryton, and Garden House, Crawcrook, add considerably to the amenities of the District. Gardens, pavilions, bowling greens, tennis courts, putting greens, children's playgrounds, a paddling pool and an open air swimming pool have been provided. These amenities make a notable contribution to the general health of the community.

Summary of Sanitary Defects and Nuisances Remedied.

	No. of Inspections	No. of informal notices served	No. of statutory notices served	Defects Remedied
Housing:—				
Public Health and				
Housing Acts	2,031	202	24	387
Overcrowding	5	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences:—				
Insufficient	26	5	—	5
Defective	22	12	—	24
Drainage	53	8	—	12
Water Supply	21	—	—	—
Food Premises	408	75	—	83
Shops Act	63	—	—	—
Slaughterhouses:—				
Public	—	—	—	—
Private	204	—	—	—
Tents, Vans, etc	18	3	—	—
Factories and Workplaces ...	309	16	—	23
Keeping of Animals ..	26	6	—	6
Insanitary Ashpits	17	18	—	31
Offensive Accumulations ...	8	6	2	8
Prevention of Damage				
by Pests Act	21	—	—	—
Noise Abatement	6	—	—	—
Infectious Disease	—	—	—	—
	<hr/> 3,238	<hr/> 351	<hr/> 26	<hr/> 579

VI.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1. Milk and Milk Products.

The District is part of a specified area in which only milk of special designation may be sold.

Dairies.

Two dairies are registered under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959.

Dairy Farms.

The supervision of milk production at the dairy farms in the District is undertaken by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Distributors.

The County Council are responsible for the licensing, and undertake milk sampling, in respect of milk of special designation.

Milk Sampling.

The following table shows the results of milk sampling undertaken by the County Council.

Class of Milk			No. Taken	Appropriate Test			No. Passed	No. Failed
Pasteurised	...	...	33	Methylene Blue	...	...	19	
				Phosphatase	...	...	19	—
Sterilised	...	...	8	Turbidity	...	...	8	—
Untreated	...	...	23	Methylene Blue	...	...	22	1
				Biological (Brucella abortus)	...	...	23	—

Disease from Milk.

No action was necessary under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Ice Cream.

Two premises continued to be registered for the manufacture and sale of ice cream, in one of which the cold mix process was used. The other premises has been fitted with modern plant to meet the requirements of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947-1952. The ice cream was manufactured under very satisfactory conditions.

2. Meat and Meat Products.

Meat.

There are two private slaughterhouses within the District, both situated at Greenside. Both premises were modernised in accordance with the Slaughterhouse Construction Regulations and provide a good standard of accommodation.

202 beasts, 813 sheep and 48 pigs were slaughtered during the year.

No cases of cysticercosis bovis or tuberculosis were encountered during the year.

Under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958, seven slaughterman's licences were renewed for a period of twelve months.

The table indicates the number of carcasses and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or in Part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	202	—	—	813	48
Number inspected	202	—	—	813	48
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis	—	—	—	—	—
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	20	—	—	9	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis ...	9.9%	—	—	1.1%	—
Tuberculosis Only					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticercosis Only					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned...	—	—	—	—	—

Meat Products.

18 lbs. of canned meat, found to be unsound, was voluntarily surrendered and disposed of so as to prevent its use for human consumption.

3. Other Foods.

The following other food products were found to be unsound, voluntarily surrendered and disposed of so as to prevent their use for human consumption.

Canned Foods	Weight
Fruit and vegetables	103 lbs.
Other foods	6 lbs.

Five articles of food, which were alleged by the purchasers to be not of the nature or substance or quality expected at the time of purchase, were brought to the notice of the Health Department; as and when necessary, liaison with the Food and Drugs Department of the Durham County Council is established to determine appropriate action required. Below is given a brief summary of the measures taken respecting the five articles referred to.

Article of Food	Complaint	Remarks
1 large brown loaf.	Wood embedded in loaf.	A letter of caution sent to vendor.
1 large brown loaf.	Contained insect.	A letter of caution sent to vendor.
1 ginger cake.	Contained mould growth.	A letter of caution sent to vendor.
$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. steak and kidney.	Decomposition.	No action—it was considered that the probable cause of decomposition was due to bad storage in the dwelling.
1 tin processed peas.	Tin contained barbed wire.	A letter of caution sent to vendor.

4. Food Premises.

The following table summarises details of food premises subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, grouped in categories of trade carried on in them. It should be noted that, in many cases, other types of commodities are sold besides the principal trade:—

Type of Premises	No.	No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16	No. of Premises to which Reg. 19 applies	No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19
Bakers	2	2	2	2
Butchers	14	14	14	14
Catering	4	4	4	4
Confectioners (Cakes) ...	5	5	5	5
Confectioners (Sweets) ...	11	11	11	11
Fish Shops:—				
Fried Fish	6	6	6	6
Wet Fish	2	2	2	2
Greengrocers	9	9	9	9
Grocers and General Dealers	40	40	40	40
Licensed Premises	11	11	11	11

Inspections of all food premises, involving 471 visits and revisits, were made under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, and any infringements found were forthwith brought to the notice of the persons concerned verbally or by the service of written informal notices.

The majority of traders, recognising their responsibilities and obligations to the general public, complied with the notices and a general improvement in food hygiene practices has been observed.

In one instance, involving newly opened butchery premises and where it was found that the premises were unsuitable for that use, the proprietor elected to close down business rather than to carry out work to comply with the Food Hygiene Regulations.

5. Food Sampling.

The Durham County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority for the District and enforces the sampling provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. The Chief Inspector of the Weights and Measures Department has kindly furnished the following information.

List and numbers of samples taken in the Ryton Urban District during the year is given below:—

- 16 Milk
- 3 Corned Beef
- 1 Ice Cream
- 1 Butter
- 1 Fish Cakes
- 1 Ground Almonds
- 1 Split Peas
- 1 Rice
- 1 Orange Drink
- 1 Lemon Drink
- 1 Sausage Rolls
- 1 Battenburg Cake
- 1 Tea
- 1 Coconut Maroons
- 1 Table Jelly with Fruit
- 1 Biscuits
- 1 Ice Cream
- 1 Pork Sausage
- 1 Beef Sausage
- 1 Potted Meat
- 1 Lentil Broth
- 1 Bilberries in Syrup
- 1 Cheese and Tomato Sticks
- 1 Christmas Plum Pudding
- 1 Danish Pastries
- 1 Tea
- 1 Dried Sage
- 1 Bacon Flavoured Biscuits
- 1 Ginger Cordial
- 1 Vita Wheat Biscuits
- 1 Ham Tivoli
- 1 Veal Sorrento
- 1 Cheese Spread with Pineapple
- 1 Bananas
- 1 Tangerines
- 4 Beer
- 1 Dried Egg
- 1 Mixed Spice
- 1 Ground Ginger
- 1 Tea
- 1 Apple and Strawberry Jam
- 1 Strawberry Jam
- 1 Blackcurrant Jam
- 1 Raspberry Jam
- 3 Irish Stewed Steak
- 1 Junior Vegetable, Lamb and Liver
- 1 Junior Egg and Bacon Breakfast
- 1 Junior Vegetable and Chicken Broth
- 1 Junior Vegetable and Beef
- 1 Grapefruit
- 1 Grapes
- 1 Bread Buns
- 1 Teacakes
- 1 Strawberries in Syrup

VII.

HOUSING

All complaints regarding unsatisfactory housing conditions and structural defects were investigated and appropriate action taken where necessary.

During the year, the Council completed the building of thirty houses.

The majority of the existing houses are of modern construction and most of them well-built; the new streets are well planned and there is practically no crowding of houses in confined yards and courts. In addition, the District enjoys the natural advantages of being situated on rising ground and in being surrounded by open country.

Fifteen houses were considered by the Council as individually unfit; seven houses were closed and fifteen were demolished; ten families were rehoused from sub-standard properties during the year.

Building Progress.

Since 1st January, 1920, the following building has taken place:—

Houses built by Council	1,629
Houses built by private enterprise	1,209
Total ...	2,838

Since 1945:—

Houses built by Council	988
Houses built by private enterprise	564
Total ...	1,552

Housing Need Summary

Year ending	Live Applications	One Family in House	Two or more families in house Number in Applicant's Family							Total
			1	2	3	4	5	6	Over 6	
December 1948	809	360	4	179	190	54	17	5	—	449
December 1949	854	371	5	201	199	49	19	8	2	483
December 1950	911	408	6	217	202	54	17	6	1	503
December 1951	622	261	4	162	146	37	9	2	1	361
December 1952	569	237	2	147	140	33	7	2	1	322
December 1953	510	214	2	129	114	39	7	3	2	296
December 1954	458	207	—	123	90	27	7	4	—	251
December 1955	400	201	—	100	64	25	4	5	1	199
December 1956	330	172	—	92	40	17	5	3	1	158
December 1957	365	177	—	105	56	17	8	1	1	188
December 1958	315	151	—	90	56	11	4	1	2	164
December 1959	312	148	2	68	50	14	2	—	1	164
December 1960	268	131	—	89	53	17	4	—	1	137
December 1961	288	147	3	81	46	9	—	1	1	141
December 1962	289	160	—	65	41	15	3	1	1	129
December 1963	269	160	—	58	33	13	4	—	1	109
December 1964	237	156	—	38	29	11	2	—	1	81
December 1965	207	139	—	28	29	7	2	1	1	68

No. of Housing Applications from Aged Persons 37

No. of Housing Applications from Single Persons ... 89

Applications for housing accommodation, if not renewed at the expiration of twelve months and every subsequent twelve months, are removed from the list of applicants.

Overcrowding.

One case of overcrowding was revealed during the year. It was agreed to offer suitable accommodation when it became available.

Housing Applications during 1965:

From sub-tenants	27
From tenants	32
From aged persons	15
From single persons	14
From outside District	47

House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959.

During the year, 80 applications for standard grants were received, and 78 approved. Of the applications approved, 68 were from owner-occupiers and 10 related to tenanted houses. Since the inception of the scheme in June, 1959, there has been a total of 340 grants paid, amounting in all to the sum of £29,690 3s. 7d.

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958.

The Council decided to extend improvement grants and to give consideration to applications for Discretionary Grants and also to make loans in appropriate cases to cover the owner's share of the cost. Five such applications were approved.

Four such grants were paid during the year, amounting to the sum of £1,303 1s. 11d.

APPENDIX

Factories Act, 1961.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1965 for the Urban District of Ryton in the County of Durham.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961.

Part I of the Act.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspector).

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	28	309	16	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority excluding out-workers' premises	—	—	—	—
Totals	28	309	16	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S 1)	4	4	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S 2.)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S 3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S 4)	3	3	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S 7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	9	9	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	16	16	—		—

There are no outworkers registered in the District.

LIST OF BYELAWS IN FORCE IN DISTRICT

Date of Adoption				Title
14th May, 1902	...	...	...	Drainage of existing buildings.
14th May, 1902	...	...	...	Nuisances.
14th May, 1902	...	...	...	Slaughter Houses.
14th May, 1902	...	...	...	Houses let in Lodgings.
9th September, 1903	...	...	...	Tents, Vans, Sheds and similar structures.
12th January, 1921	...	...	...	Byelaws and Regulations with respect to the charges for the use of the cemetery at Ryton.
8th February, 1928	...	...	...	Relating to new streets.
12th February, 1930	...	..	...	A Scheme for the Regulation and Management of a common known as Ryton Willows and Reed Side. The Commons Act, 1899.
12th April, 1950	...	...	...	Sanitary and Cleanly Conditions and Practices in connection with the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air.
1st September, 1951	...	...	...	Fouling of footways by Dogs.
1st September, 1951	...	...	...	Nuisances contrary to Public Decency.
9th September, 1953	...	...	...	Building Byelaws.
1st March, 1954	...	...	...	Deposit of mud and other materials on highways.
1st August, 1957	...	...	...	Preservation of Road Margins.
12th May, 1960	...	...	...	Building Byelaws made under Section 24 of the Clean Air Act, 1956.
1st August, 1965	Byelaws with respect to the management of a cemetery made by the Ryton Urban District Council under Section 198 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

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Cert. Meat and Other Foods.

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Miss J. Dodd.

